

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 099320 TOSEC 040132
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 PA-01 /027 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN:DP
APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
S/AA- AMB ATHERTON
NEA - MR. VELIOTES
S/S - MR. TARNOFF

-----066420 182202Z /64
O 182152Z APR 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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FOR SAUNDERS/CARTER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: XF, SOPN

SUBJECT: UPI STORY ON ALLEGED NEW MIDEAST INITIATIVE

1. UPI CORRESPONDENT JIM ANDERSON HAS STORY QUOTING "STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS ON SECRETARY VANCE'S PLANE" THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WILL MAKE A SPEECH TO LAUNCH A U.S. INITIATIVE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AS SOON AS PANAMA CANAL TREATY DEBATE IS CONCLUDED IN SENATE. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN AT NOON BRIEFING TODAY (TUESDAY) USED FOLLOWING GUIDANCE IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ABOUT A NEW INITIATIVE:
BEGIN TEXT:

--WE ARE PRESENTLY IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PARTIES TO DETERMINE HOW WE CAN BEST MOVE THE PEACE PROCESS FORWARD.

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--AS WE HAVE SAID IN THE PAST, WE WILL NOT HESITATE TO PUT FORWARD OUR OWN IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS WHEN WE THINK THEY WOULD HELP THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS.

--WE HAVE NOT YET REACHED ANY DEFINITIVE DECISION ABOUT POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS BUT THIS WILL BE A SUBJECT TAKEN UP BY AMBASSADOR ATHERTON ON HIS TRIP. END TEXT.

2. IF WHITE HOUSE IS ASKED, SPOKESMAN PLANS TO SAY THAT UPI STORY IS INACCURATE, IN ADDITION TO ABOVE GUIDANCE, REGARDING A POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH, THE WHITE HOUSE IS SAYING THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS NO PRESENT PLANS TO MAKE SUCH A SPEECH. OBVIOUSLY, ON A SUBJECT THIS IMPORTANT AT SOME POINT DOWN THE ROAD HE MAY DECIDE TO SPEAK TO THE NATION ON IT. THAT OPTION IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE, AND IT CANNOT BE RULED OUT AT SOME POINT. BUT NO PRESENT PLANS EXIST.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 18 apr 1978
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
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ISecure: 1
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TAGS: SOPN, PDEV, XF, US, UPI, (ANDERSON, JIM)
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